

Abbreviations

AAP: American Academy of Pediatrics

AFDC: Aid to Families with Dependent Children

AIDS: acquired immunodeficiency syndrome

BLL: blood lead level

CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

DEQ: Department of Environmental Quality

DHHS: U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

DMFS: decayed, missing, and filled surfaces

DOT: directly observed therapy

DTaP: diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

EPSDT: early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment program

Hep B: hepatitis B

Hib: *Haemophilus influenzae* type B

HIV: human immunodeficiency virus

HPSA: health professional shortage area(s)

IPV: inactivated poliovirus vaccine

IV: intravenous

K – 5: kindergarten through fifth grade

LBW: low birth weight

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level(s)

MMR: measles, mumps, and rubella

n: number

NPS: nonpoint source

NRHD: New River Health District

OPV: oral poliovirus vaccine

OWP: Office of Water Programs

p.p.m.: parts per million

PATH: Partnership for Access to HealthCare

PID: pelvic inflammatory disease

PMCL: Primary Maximum Contaminant Level(s)

SDA: Safe Drinking Water Act

SES: socioeconomic status

SIDS: sudden infant death syndrome

STD: sexually transmitted disease

TANF: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

TB: tuberculosis

TIA: transient ischemic attack

ug/dL: micrograms per deciliter

VDH: Virginia Department of Health

WIC: Women, Infants, and Children Program

Glossary

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS): a disease characterized by the Human Immune Deficiency Virus (HIV) and exhibits one or more of 23 specific signs or symptoms, including various types of pneumonia, cancer, and fungal and parasitic infections. AIDS is also determined by the level of the patient's T4 lymphocytes, indicating the efficiency of the person's immune system.

access to care: the ability or ease for obtaining health care.

age-adjusted rate: rate derived by applying age group population relatives from the standard population to the unadjusted rates for total deaths.

antimicrobial: an agent that kills or inhibits the growth or a replication of microorganisms.

aquifer: a water-bearing stratum of permeable rock. The void between rock which may be filled with water where homeowners drill wells to obtain drinking water.

atherosclerosis: a common disorder of the arteries. Yellowish plaques of cholesterol, fats, and other remains are deposited in the walls of the large and medium sized arteries. This causes the vessel walls of arteries to become thick, hardened, and more narrow, which lessens blood circulation to organs and other areas normally supplied by the artery. This process is a major cause of heart disease, chest pain, heart attacks, stroke, and other disorders of the circulation.

birth rate=

$$\frac{\text{number of live births}}{\text{estimated total midyear population}} \times 1,000$$

caries: dental decay caused by bacterial plaque.

carotid artery: one of the major blood vessels bringing blood to the head and neck.

cerebral embolism: a blood clot that stops the flow of blood through vessels of the brain. This results in lack of oxygen in cells beyond the clot.

cerebrovascular disease: disease that affects the blood vessels and blood supply to the brain.

channelization: the modification of a natural river or stream channel; may include deepening, widening, or straightening; a flood reduction or marsh drainage tactic that can interfere with waste assimilation capacity and disturb fish habitat.

cistern: usually, an underground, artificial reservoir for storing rainwater for drinking water purposes.

coliform: a group of bacteria used as an indicator of sanitary quality in water. The total coliform group is an indicator of sanitary significance, because the organisms are normally present in large numbers in the intestinal tracts of humans and other warm-blooded animals.

community water system: a waterworks which serves at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents.

conception: the union of a sperm and an egg; fertilization.

congenital anomaly: an abnormality present at birth; a birth defect.

contagious: communicable; a disease that may be transmitted by direct or indirect contact.

defecation: to eliminate feces from the bowels; passage of a bowel movement.

demographics: the statistical characteristics of human populations such as age, education, and income.

dentate: having teeth.

direct costs: expenses that can be directly identified with a specific product or department.

environmental education: education programs and activities that create greater understanding of environmental problem-solving and decision-making; involves teaching the ecological principles and relationships through which the solutions to environmental problems may be found.

***E. coli* 0157:H7:** a bacteria that can cause bloody diarrhea. It is found in the intestinal tracts of infected humans and cows and can be transferred from animal to animal, animal to man, from animal to man on food, and from person to person through close contact or food. The term “0157:H7” indicates a particular type of *E. coli* bacteria. Not all strains of *E. coli* cause illness.

emerging infection: an infectious disease that just appeared in a population, has expanded its range, or threatens to increase in the near future.

enzootic: an animal disease peculiar to or constantly present in a locality.

epidemiology: the study of the distribution and causes of diseases and injuries in human populations.

etiologic: the study of all factors that may be involved in the development of a disease, including susceptibility of the patient, the nature of the disease agents, and the way in which the patient’s body is invaded by the agent.

fecal: pertaining to the nature of feces or excrement.

feral: relating to, or suggestive of, a wild animal. An animal having escaped from domestication and has become wild.

fetal death: death of a fetus weighing 500 grams or more, or of 20 weeks' gestation or more.

fetus: child in utero from about the eighth week after conception until birth.

fluoride: a naturally occurring mineral in drinking water which causes teeth to become more resistant to decay.

fluoride supplement: a prepared fluoride compound in tablet or liquid form used to augment natural fluoride levels. The dosage is based on the amount of naturally occurring fluoride in the drinking water and the age of the child. The drinking water should be assayed prior to prescribing a supplement.

full time equivalent (FTE): represents a specific position's job classification in terms of hours worked per week.

genital: pertaining to the reproductive organs.

gestation: the length of time from conception to birth.

groundwater: water beneath the earth's surface in a layer of rock or soil called the saturated zone, because all openings are filled with water; the water that supplies wells and springs.

health: the condition of being sound in body, mind, and spirit; freedom from physical/mental disease or pain.

housing unit: a housing unit is defined by the Census Bureau as "a room or group of rooms intended for occupancy as separate living quarters by a family, by a group of unrelated persons living together, or by a person living alone." Such separate quarters must have direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall. Thus, each apartment unit in an apartment building is counted as one housing unit.

household: one or more persons occupying a domestic unit.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV): the virus that causes AIDS. Infection with this virus severely weakens the immune system so that the patient is susceptible to many diseases. The most common implications are infectious diseases and cancers. A person may be infected with the virus but may not show symptoms for many years. The virus may be transmitted through sexual contact, infected blood (either through transfusions or sharing needles), or from mother to child during pregnancy or breastfeeding. Medication may slow the progression of the disease, but, at the present time, there is no cure.

immunization: often refers to a shot or oral medication to produce immunity or resistance to infection.

incidence: the frequency of occurrence of any event or condition over a period of time and in relation to the population in which it occurs.

indicator: any of a variety of statistical markers that together provide an indication of a condition or direction.

indirect costs: expenses that are difficult to trace directly to a specific source.

infant death: a death of a child under one year of age.

infant mortality rate=
$$\frac{\text{number of deaths under 1 year of age}}{\text{total number of live births}} \times 1,000$$

infectious disease: able to cause infection; caused by or capable of being transmitted by infection.

inspecting: a checking or testing of an individual against established standards; to view closely in critical appraisal; to examine officially.

intentional injury death: death that occurs as a result of a willful act of an individual. Examples of intentional injury death include homicide, suicide, and deaths that occur as a result of use of alcohol or drugs.

intervention: any act performed to prevent harm from occurring to a patient or to improve the mental, emotional, or physical function of a patient. A physiologic process may be monitored or enhanced, or a pathologic process may be arrested or controlled.

intravenous drug use: use of drugs that are injected directly to the veins.

karst terrain: an irregular limestone region with sinkholes, underground streams, and caverns.

live birth: a birth in which the neonate, regardless of gestational age, manifests any heartbeat, breathes, or displays voluntary movement.

low birth weight: the birth weight of 2,500 grams (5 pounds 8 ounces) or less, regardless of the period of gestation.

maximum contaminant level: the maximum permissible level of contaminant in water which is delivered to the free flowing outlet of the ultimate user of a waterworks, except in the case of turbidity where the maximum permissible level is measured at the point of entry to the distribution system and usually reported as MCL. Contaminants added to the water under circumstances controlled by the user, except those resulting from corrosion of piping and plumbing caused by water quality, are excluded from this definition. Maximum contaminant levels may be either “primary” (based on health) or “secondary” (based on aesthetics). Primary maximum contaminant levels are reported as PMCL and secondary maximum contaminant levels are reported as SMCL.

median: the middle value in a distribution, above and below which lie an equal number of values.

microbial agents: bacteria capable of producing disease.

microorganism: any tiny, usual microscopic entity capable of carrying on living processes. It may be pathogenic. Kinds of microorganisms include bacteria, fungi, protozoa, and viruses.

monitoring: the process of checking, observing, or keeping track of something for a specified period of time or at specified intervals.

morbidity: the state of being diseased: the number of sick persons or cases of disease in relationship to a specific population.

mortality: the death rate; the ratio of the number of deaths to a given population.

mortality rate: number of deaths per population number. Mortality rates are generally expressed by 1,000 or 100,000 population.

mutual monogamy: having sex with only one person who only has sex with you.

natural fetal death: a fetal death that is not an induced termination of pregnancy.

neonate: a newborn infant up to six weeks of age.

nonmarital birth (out-of-wedlock): a birth which occurred to a woman who was not married to the father of the child at the time of the event and had not been married to him at any time during the preceding 10 months.

nonpoint: pollution arising from an ill-defined and diffuse source, such as runoff from cultivated fields, grazing land, or urban areas.

outbreak: a sudden rise in the incidence of a disease.

parity: the condition of having carried pregnancy to a point of viability (500 gram birth weight of 20 weeks gestation).

$$\text{percent of out-of-wedlock (nonmarital)} = \frac{\text{Number of out-of-wedlock (nonmarital) pregnancies}}{\text{Total number of pregnancies}} \times 100$$

$$\text{percent teenage births} = \frac{\text{Number of teenage live births}}{\text{Total number of live births}} \times 100$$

perinatal: concerning the period beginning after the 28th week of pregnancy through 28 days following birth.

planning: the act or process of making or carrying out plans; the establishment of goals, policies, and procedures for a social or economic unit.

point source: any discernable, confined, and discrete conveyance, including, but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure or container, from which pollutants are or may be discharged; pollution arising from a well-defined origin, such as a discharge from an industrial plant or runoff from a cattle feedlot.

post-exposure prophylaxis: the observance, rules, or treatment necessary to prevent disease after exposure to the disease has occurred.

potable water: water suitable for drinking or cooking, from both health and aesthetics consideration.

poverty: the absence of the usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions.

poverty level: the governmental standard for determining what is classified to be “poor” personal or family income.

pre-exposure prophylaxis: the observance, rules, or treatment necessary to prevent disease before exposure to the disease occurs.

preconception: occurring prior to conception, or prior to the beginning of a pregnancy.

pregnancies: the sum of live births, induced terminations of pregnancies, and natural fetal deaths.

prenatal care: health care of the woman during the period of gestation directed toward ensuring the health of both the mother and the developing fetus.

psycho-social: related to both psychological and social factors.

prevalence: the total number of cases of a disease in a given population at a specific time.

prophylactic: preventing the spread of disease; an agent that prevents the spread of disease.

quarantine: forced to be isolated or kept away from others.

rate: the amount of something in relation to some other thing; a fixed ratio between two things, quantities, etc.

retrospective: concerned with or related to the past or past events.

sealant: a plastic barrier placed on the chewing surface of healthy permanent teeth to prevent tooth decay.

sewage: water-carried and nonwater-carried human excrement, kitchen, laundry, shower, bath, or lavatory wastes separately or together with such underground, surface, storm, and other water, and liquid industrial wastes as may be present from residences, buildings, vehicles, industrial establishments, or other places.

socio-economic: the combined social and economic level of individuals or groups. Such classification is useful in studying the relationship of income and living conditions to the prevalence and incidence of various diseases.

stroke: a blood clot or bleeding in the brain. This results in the lack of oxygen to, and possible death of, the brain tissues that are normally supplied by the vessels.

surveillance: an ongoing process that involves the systematic collection, analysis, and distribution of information regarding the occurrence of diseases in defined populations; a method of monitoring to determine environmental quality or the compliance of a given activity to a standard; used to identify episodes of high pollution concentration in time to take preventive action.

teenage: all women 10 years through 19 years of age.

transient ischemic attack (TIA): an episode of brain blood vessel damage (stroke). In a TIA, the attack is often brief, with symptoms lasting only a few minutes. It is rare for symptoms to last for more than a few hours. Symptoms include disturbance or normal vision, dizziness, weakness, difficulty in swallowing, numbness, or unconsciousness.

trimester: a three-month period.

- **first trimester:** the first three months of pregnancy.
- **second trimester:** the middle three months of pregnancy.
- **third trimester:** the third and final three months of pregnancy.

unintentional injury death: death that occurs as a result of an accident. Unintentional injury is not associated with a willful act of another individual. The classification of unintentional injury deaths addresses a variety of different categories. This includes deaths from falls, fires, poisonings, motor vehicle accidents, drowning, choking, head injuries, spinal cord injuries, sports, and roadway injuries.

variant: (a) one of two or more things exhibiting usually slight differences.
(b) usually varying slightly from the standard form.

unprotected sex: engaging in a sexual act without a barrier that prevents the exchange of body fluids.

vaccine: a mixture of a weakened or killed virus that stimulates antibody production but cannot cause severe infection.

wastewater: water that carries wastes from homes, businesses, and industries; a mixture of water and dissolved or suspended solids.

waterworks: a system that serves piped water for drinking or domestic use of (1) the public, (2) at least 15 connections, or (3) an average of 25 individuals for at least 60 days out of the year. The term water works shall include all structures, equipment, and appurtenances used in the storage, collection, purification, treatment, and distribution of pure water except the piping and fixtures inside the building where such water is delivered.

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